

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (canceled)

2. (currently amended): ~~The interleaving method of claim 1,~~ An interleaving method for correcting short burst errors in a digital versatile disk(DVD), the method comprising the steps of:

merging a plurality of error correction code (ECC) blocks, each having a predetermined size, in a horizontal direction, to form a merged ECC block; and

storing the merged ECC block in a buffer in units of a predetermined number of rows and interleaving the ECC block in units of a predetermined number of bytes in accordance with a predetermined interleaving rule,

wherein when interleaving is performed such that every two ECC blocks are merged in a horizontal direction to form a new ECC block and the merged ECC blocks are grouped in units of two lines for interleaving, the predetermined interleaving rule satisfies the following formulae:

1) when $t=0$, $k=2m$, where $m=2t$

2) when $t=1, 2, \dots, 22$, $k=2m$, where $m=2t$

$k=2(m-1)+94$, where $m=2t-1$

3) when $t=23, 24, \dots, 45$, $k=2(m-45)+1$, where $m=2t-1$

$k=2(m-46)+93$, where $m=2t$

4) when $t=46, 47, \dots, 68$, $k=2(m-92)+2$, where $m=2t$

$k=2(m-91)+92$, where $m=2t-1$

5) when $t=69, 70, \dots, 90$, $k=2(m-137)+3$, where $m=2t-1$

$k=2(m-138)+95$, where $m=2t$

6) when $t=91$, $k=2(m-137)+3$, where $m=2t-1$

wherein reference symbol 't' used in six equations of the above formulae, denotes a positive integer of greater than or equal to 91 inclusive of 0, m is let to be the index assigned before interleaving and k is let to be the index assigned after interleaving.